3721
R. Kent
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#8/Election

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of		
Wolfgang Günter RUCKMANN Horst Bernhard MICHALIK		Art Unit:3721
Application No.	: 09/926,177 ✓	Examiner: Louis B. Tran
Filed	: January 7, 2002	
For	: LONGITUDINAL FOLDING DEVICE ✓	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed to the undersigned in the above-identified U.S. patent application on January 30, 2003, applicants, through the undersigned, elect to prosecute claims 9-12 in the subject patent application. This election is made with traverse. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his requirement in view of the following arguments.

Claims 9 and 13 are the two independent claims that are pending in the subject patent application. Both are directed to a longitudinal folding device. Both recite a longitudinal folding hopper having first and second hopper flanks. Both further recite a paper deflection device enclosing the longitudinal folding device. In claim 9 there is further recited a high voltage source connected to the paper deflection device. In claim 13 there is recited a vibrator connected to the paper deflection device. In claim 13, the purpose of the vibrator device is recited as improving the sliding of paper webs with

respect to the paper deflection device. The purpose of the high voltage source is not specifically recited in claim 9. Their purpose is discussed in the Substitute Specification starting at paragraph 147.

The Examiner's categorization of claims 9-12 and 13-15 is not understood. Both sets of claims are directed to a longitudinal folding device. Both are concerned with the movement of a paper web train through the folder and specifically through the folding hopper of the folding device. The Examiner's statement regarding "blocking" is also not understood. It is unclear to the undersigned what that term is meant to describe.

An early and favorable Office Action on all of the claims now pending in the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Applicants

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